



HF Happenings 830

Volume 17, Issue 40, the week of 14 January 2019

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

Southern African Fauna and Flora <https://zsfaunaandflora.wordpress.com/>

ZS SOTA <https://zssota.wordpress.com>

5 MHz (60 metre) allocations <http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/60-meter_band#External_links



SD contest logging software

A little reminder that EI5DI has, over the past few years, developed some amateur radio software which may be of help to those seeking to carry out logging during HF Contesting. SD is excellent for fast, simple CW and SSB logging during HF contests, and is free and unrestricted. It supports IRTS contests and hundreds of others worldwide. SD runs on Windows, Linux, and on Raspberry Pi 3. It may be downloaded from www.ei5di.com

Radio eBooks for download

There are a number of vintage radio and amateur radio related eBooks available for free download on the Gutenberg site. Among them is the 1922 edition of The Radio Amateur's Handbook by A. Frederick Collins.

Jarno de Haan, PA3DMI tweeted this link that will display the books available: www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/search/?query=radio

Word to the Wise

Sunday driver - In the context of contesting, a casual contesteer that gets on the air to make a few contacts late in the contest period. A particular kind of "fresh meat."

Operating Tip

Dupe! When a station that you've worked before calls you, it may be more prudent to just work that station again rather than send them a DUPE message. In most contests today, the chances are good that the station calling is using a computerized logging program, and if they're calling, they truly must believe they don't have you in the log. Having more than one contact with the same station is not cause for a

January 2019

15 - Highway ARC Monthly Meeting

16 - National Rooibos Day

17 to 21 - Wolfkop Weekender, Citrusdal

18 to 20 - PEARS VHF/UHF contest

19 and 20 - N3TC Drak Challenge, Underberg; ARRL VHF/UHF Contest

21 - May RAE registration opens

25 - Closing date for February Radio ZS

26 - Summer QRP contest; Delheim's Harvest Festival, Stellenbosch; International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

26 and 27 - BARTG RTTY Contest

31 - Closing date for Nominations for Council, SARL Awards and AGM Motions

February

1 to 3 - Origin Festival, Helderstroom

2 and 3 - Magoebaskloof Berry Festival

2 - SARL VHF/UHF QSO Party

3 - AWA CW Activity Day

4 - World Cancer Day; Closing date for QRP contest logs

7 to 10 - Up the Creek Music Festival, Swellendam

8 and 9 - SARL Council Strategic Meeting, NARC

9 - VHF/UHF Workshop, NARC

9 and 10 - National Field Day; CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest; PACC Contest (The Netherlands)

11 - International Day for Women and Girls in Science

13 - World Radio Day

14 - Valentine's Day

15 - Closing date for PEARS VHF logs

16 and 17 - ARRL DX CW Contest

18 - Closing date NFD logs; Closing

date for AWA CW Activity Day logs

19 - Highway ARC Monthly Meeting

penalty but claiming a contact without a corresponding contact in the other log will cost you points.

If a number of stations start calling you that have all worked you before, it could be because someone has incorrectly spotted a call on your frequency and the duplicate callers are blindly calling you. Note that it's at least unethical and potentially against the rules to intentionally incorrectly spot other stations onto your run frequency.

If you're calling a station that you think is new to you, but they say "DUPE" and refuse to work you, it's their prerogative. Arguing will cost time better spent on contacting stations that *want* to work you. You might also want to make absolutely sure you've copied their call sign correctly and, if so, try to identify whether you're transposing characters, mis-copying particular letters or numbers, or whether you just made a mistake.

Receiving Antenna Problems

Any antenna that is near a dedicated receiving antenna can receive and re-radiate signals, reducing the performance of your receiving antenna. In the YCCC Low-band receiving array manual <https://static.dxengineering.com/global/images/instructions/dxe-yccc-switch.pdf>, John, W1FV, suggested a way to detune other antennas using vacuum relays to help reduce this problem. "See pages 46 - 48 of the manual. Figure 39 on page 47 shows a simple circuit that I use with my K3 for simultaneously keying my amplifier (AL-1200 with the QSK-5 option) and the vacuum relays (via a driver transistor) on my TX verticals."

<http://lists.contesting.com/archives/cgi-bin/mesg.cgi?a=Top-band&i=008001d4876a%248edf50b0%24ac9df210%24%40verizon.net>.

New Choke Cookbook

Jim, K9YC, has published "A New Choke Cookbook for the 160 – 10 M Bands" on his web site <http://audiosystemsgroup.com/2018Cookbook.pdf>. Jim concentrates on two sizes of type-31 Fair-rite magnetic cores, covering theory and practice for controlling RF current on the outside of transmitter feed lines.

Ham Antenna Rotator

Dan, KB6NU, found the article "Ham Antenna Rotator: The Teardown" from *Electronic Design* www.electronicdesign.com/analog/ham-antenna-rotator-teardown. A HAM-IV rotator is discussed, disassembled, cleaned, lubricated and rebuilt. It could provide the impetus for you to do the same with one you find at a hamfest this spring.

African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award (www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp)

Libya, 5A. Elham, 5A0YL has been active on 20 metres using SSB at various times. QSL via OQRS.

Ghana, 9G. Ruetgger, DL8MEZ is active as 9G5RV until 26 January while on a training mission for medical personnel. He plans to show up daily on Med-Net and Intermar on 20 metres. QSL via operator's instructions.

Tunisia, 3V. Ashraf "Ash", 3V4-002 (KF5EYY), will be active as 3V8SF from the Scout Radio Club of Sfax city club station during the CQ WW 160 m CW Contest (25 to 27 January) as a Single-Op/Low-Power entry. QSL via LX1NO or LoTW. Read about Ashraf on the following Web page at <http://www.kf5eyy.info>

Rwanda, 9X. Harald, DF2WO will be active again as 9X2AW from Rwanda between 18 January and 14 February. He will focus on 160 - 30 metres (60 m included) CW and FT8. QSL via M0OXO's OQRS. Between 23 and 30 January he will be joined by Dave, WJ2O (call sign TBA, but QSL via LoTW or direct to N2ZN)

The Gambia, C5, C5DX is the call granted to the Sandringham School ARC and the DXpedition will take place between 9 and 16 February. I will operate CW and four licenced students from Sandringham School Amateur Radio Club (M0SCY) who are also on the trip will operate SSB – Jessica, M6LPJ, Polly, M6POG, Morgan, M6MXD and Stan, M6SQO. It will be their first DXpedition and they will be learning how to operate from a semi-rare country so please bear this in mind and be patient with them as they learn the craft of DX operating. QSL via LoTW or via G4DJX.



Burundi, 9U. Shabu, M0KRI will be active as 9U4RI between 15 and 25 February. Operation from 40 to 10 metres using CW and SSB. QSL via home call, direct

Senegal, 6W. Willy, ON4AVT will once again be active as 6W/call from Mbour. Activity between 20 February and 30 March on 20 metres using CW and SSB. QSL via home call.

Togo, 5V. The EIDX group will, after 9N7EI and 7Q7EI, be operating as 5V7EI between 14 and 26 March. Plans are to operate with 5 stations from 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via M00XO OQRS, more information at <https://5v7ei.com/>

Lesotho, 7P. Rune, LA7THA and team will be operating the first part of March with approximately 10 days of operation with the focus on the low bands. More to follow.

Burkina Faso, XT. Max, DK1MAX will be active as XT2MAX from 17 to 25 April. Operation is 'holiday-style' on all bands using all modes. QSL via LoTW.

Uganda, 5X. The Italian DXpedition Team will be active from Uganda during September/October 2019. Look for them as 5X0T using CW, SSB and RTTY and as 5X0X using FT8. More to follow.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Madagascar, 5R. Eric, F6ICX is operating as 5R8IC from Sainte Marie Island (AF-090) until February. Operation on HF using mostly CW. QSL via home call.



Sierra Leone, 9L. A large group of operators are active as 9LY1JM from Banana Island, IOTA AF-037, until 21 January. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK and FT8 with four stations active. QSL via F5GSJ.

Seychelles, S7. Mike, OE6MBG is active as S79AA from Mahe, IOTA AF-024, until 2 February. Activity is on 160 to 10 metres and 6 metres as conditions permit, using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 7 to 14 January 2019

Classic Exchange, CW

13:00 UTC 13 January to 07:00 UTC 14 January and

13:00 UTC 15 January to 07:00 UTC 16 January

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m

Classes: (see rules)

Exchange: Name and RST, state, province or country and rcvr/xmtr manuf/model

Work stations: Once per band per mode per rcvr/xmtr manuf/model

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = sum (total mode

QSO points x total mode mults) and Bonus Points

Submit logs by: 30 April 2019

E-mail logs to: k2rp@arri.net

Mail logs to: K2RP, 659 Shanas Lane, Encinitas, CA 92024, USA

Find rules at: www.classicexchange.org/jan19/Winter_2019_CX_Rules.pdf

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 14 January

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op

Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 16 January 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: <http://qrpccontest.com/4sqrp>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.4sqrp.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 16 January
Geographic Focus: United States
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 17 January 2019
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

Phone Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 16 January
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 18 January 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: [www.perluma.com/Phone Fray Con-test_Rules.pdf](http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Con-test_Rules.pdf)

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 16 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 17 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 19 January 2019
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>

NAQCC CW Sprint
01:30 - 03:30 UTC 17 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1.5 x if bug, 1 x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 January 2019
E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net and jcoreyc@gmail.com
Upload log at: http://naqcc.info/sprint_sub-mit_log.html
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201901.html>

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 18 January
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 20 January 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 18 January
Geographic Focus: United States
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 19 January 2019
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 18 January
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 20 January 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

LZ Open Contest
18:00 - 22:00 UTC 18 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op
Max power: QRP: 5 W
Exchange: 3-digit serial no and 3-digit serial no received from last QSO

Work stations: Once each 30 minutes
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 28 January 2019
E-mail logs to: LZ1GL@yahoo.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.lzopen.com/lz-open-contest/rules/rulesF.htm

Hungarian DX Contest
12:00 UTC 19 January to 11:59 UTC 20 January
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - CW or SSB - low or high; Single Op All Band Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - mixed, CW or SSB - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Multi; SWL
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: HA: RS(T) and 2-letter county/HA-DXC member no; non-HA: RS(T) and serial no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 1 point per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; 6 points per QSO with HA station
Multipliers: Hungarian counties, once per band; HA-DXC member numbers, once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 3 February 2019
E-mail logs to: hadx@mrasz.hu
Upload log at: www.ha-dx.com/HADX/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ha-dx.com/HADX/html/rules_en.html

RSGB AFS SSB Contest
13:00 - 17:00 UTC 19 January
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op/Multi-Op - low, medium or high (see rules for team requirements)
Max power: HP: 400 watts; MP: 100 watts; LP: 10 watts
Exchange: RS and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 January 2019
Upload log at: www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2019/rafs.shtml

North American SSB QSO Party
 18:00 UTC 19 January to 05:59 UTC 20 January
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Awards: North America
 Mode: SSB
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op - QRP or low; Multi-Two - low
 Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours; Multi-Two: 12 hours
 Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: NA: Name and state, DC, province or country; non-NA: Name
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
 Multipliers: Each US state/DC (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC 25 January 2019
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Upload log at: www.ncjweb.com/naqplotsubmit/
 Mail logs to: Bill Lippert, AC0W, 2013 6th Avenue SE, Austin, MN 55912-4321, USA
 Find rules at: www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf

NA Collegiate SSB Championship
 18:00 UTC 19 January to 05:59 UTC 20 January
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Awards: North America
 Mode: SSB
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Multi-One – low
 Max operating hours: 12 hours
 Max power: LP: 100 watts
 Exchange: NA: Name and state, DC, province or country; non-NA: Name
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
 Multipliers: Each US state/DC (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC 25 January 2019
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Upload log at: www.ncjweb.com/naqplotsubmit/
 Mail logs to: Bill Lippert, AC0W, 2013 6th Avenue SE, Austin, MN 55912-4321, USA
 Find rules at: www.w9smc.com/nacc/

WAB 1,8 MHz Phone/CW
 19:00 - 23:00 UTC 19 January
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 160 m Only
 Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile or portable; Multi-Op - fixed, mobile or portable; Low Power; SWL - fixed, mobile or portable
 Max power: non-Low: >10 watts; Low: 10 watts
 Exchange: British Isles: RS, serial no and WAB square; Other: RS, serial no and country
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: (see rules)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 9 February 2019
 E-mail logs to: aebbooks@ntlworld.com
 Mail logs to: Tony Beardsley, G3XKT, 14 York Avenue, Sandiacre, Nottingham NG10 5HB, United Kingdom
 Find rules at: <http://wab.intermip.net/Contest%20Rules.php#OtherRules>

Feld Hell Sprint
 20:00 - 23:59 UTC (EU - AF) and 23:00 UTC 19 January to 02:59 UTC 20 January (ENA - ESA) and 02:00 - 05:59 UTC 20 January (WNA - OC - AS)
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: Feld Hell
 Bands: 160, 80, 40 m
 Classes: (none)
 Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: (see rules)
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Bonus Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: (see rules)
 Score Calculation: (see rules)
 Submit logs by: 24 January 2019
 Upload log at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/low-down-sprint>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
 02:00 - 04:00 UTC 21 January
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Band; All Band
 Max power: 5 watts
 Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power
 Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once;
Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 January 2019

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://grpcontest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://grpcontest.com/pigrun/>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 23 January

NAQCC CW Sprint, 01:30 - 03:30 UTC 23 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 23 January

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 23 January

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 23 January and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 24 January

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 25 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 25 January

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 January

CQ 160-Meter CW Contest, 22:00 UTC 25 January to 22:00 UTC 27 January

REF CW Contest, 06:00 UTC 26 January to 18:00 UTC 27 January

BARTG RTTY Sprint, 12:00 UTC 26 January to 12:00 UTC 27 January

UBA DX SSB Contest, 13:00 UTC 26 January to 13:00 UTC 27 January

Winter Field Day, 19:00 UTC 26 January to 19:00 UTC 27 January

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter